

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following comments is respectfully requested. Claims 16-20 and 25-33 are currently active in this case, Claims 16 and 25-28 having been amended by way of the present amendment, Claims 21-24 having been canceled by way of the present amendment, and Claims 29-33 having been added by way of the present amendment. Support for new Claims 29-33 can be found at least in Figures 24-26 and the corresponding text of Applicants' specification as originally filed. Therefore, the addition of Claims 29-33 is not believed to raise a question of new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 16 and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,421,499 to Kim et al.; Claims 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,222,983 to Heo.

In response to the rejection of Claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Applicants have now amended Claim 16 to recite "An information storage medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom..." Thus, it is now clear that Claim 16 recites an information storage medium that is structurally configured to have data (recited in the body of the claim) recorded thereon. That is, Claim 16 is now clearly directed to the structure of the storage medium itself, rather than data stored on the medium. Therefore, Claim 16 complies with 35 U.S.C. § 101.

Turning now to the prior art rejection, in order to expedite issuance of a patent in this case, Applicants have amended independent Claims 16 and 25-28 to clarify the patentable features of the present invention over the cited references. Specifically, these independent

claims each recite an information storage medium configured to have data recorded thereon and data reproduced therefrom configured to store contents data including at least one of movie data and still picture data, and configured to store control information including information for managing the contents data. Also recited is that the information includes one or more fields with cell information (CI), the CI of each field includes at least a movie cell information (M_CI) or a still picture cell information (S_CI), the S_CI includes a field with still picture cell general information (S_C_GI) and a plurality of fields with still picture cell entry point information (S_C_EPI#), and the S_C_GI includes a number (C_EPI_Ns) of the still picture cell entry point information fields, the number C_EPI_Ns describing a number of the still picture cell entry point information fields in a cell referring to the still picture data.

In contrast, the cited reference to Kim et al. discloses a method of creating and recording presentation order management information for a rewritable recording medium. As seen in Figures 2A and 2B of Kim et al., cell information of the medium disclosed in this reference consists of a field THMNL_N. As noted in the Official Action, this THMNL_N is an index number of the thumbnail (i.e. small still picture). However, this index of thumbnail is not the ***number of the thumbnails managed in the S_CI***. In this regard, it appears that the Official Action confuses the thumbnail number with the number of thumbnails.

In order to remove this confusion, independent Claims 16 and 25-28 are amended to explicitly recite the “number (C_EPI_Ns) of the still picture cell entry point information fields, said number C_EPI_Ns describing a number of the still picture cell entry point information fields S_C_EPI# in a cell referring to the still picture data.” The index of thumbnails disclosed in Kim et al. simply does not meet this limitation. For example, according to the amended claims, if the number of still picture cell entry point information fields in a cell is assumed to be 8, the C_EPI_Ns should be 8. However, making the same

assumption with regard to Kim et al., THMNL_N of this reference will not always indicate 8, but may indicate 1 when this index number indicates the first one of 8 thumbnail pictures. Therefore, Kim et al. does not teach, explicitly or inherently, all of the claimed features of Claims 16 and 25-28 as amended herein.

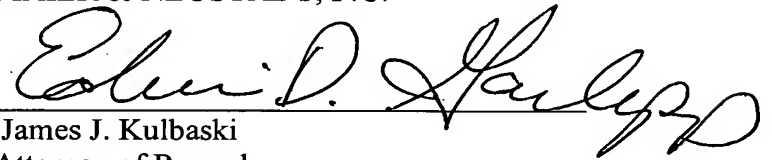
The reference to Heo discloses a DVD audio having a data zone for storing data to be reproduced and an information zone for storing information on the data to be reproduced. However, this reference does not disclose “a number (C_EPI_Ns) of the still picture cell entry point information fields, said number C_EPI_Ns describing a number of the still picture cell entry point information fields S_C_EPI# in a cell referring to the still picture data.” Thus, Heo, does not correct the deficiencies of Kim et al. In this regard, Applicants note that the Official Action cited this reference merely for the teaching of additional control information for audio schemes.

For the reasons stated above, independent Claims 16 and 25-28, as amended, patentably define over the cited references. Moreover, as Claims 17-24 and 29-33 depend from Claims 16 and 29, respectively, these dependent claims also patentably define over the cited references.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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